



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

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## **CARMEL MAN SENTENCED TO 38 YEARS FOR PRODUCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

INDIANAPOLIS - Dale E. Russell, 48, Carmel, Indiana, was sentenced to 38 years in prison late yesterday by U.S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following his conviction at trial March 3, 2010, for producing child pornography, announced Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. This case was the result of a six-year investigation by the Greenfield Police Department, Carmel Police Department, Kokomo Police Department, Indiana State Police, and Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). During the investigation, Russell fled to Mexico and was there from 2007 to 2009. In August 2009, Russell was expelled from Mexico and was returned to the United States. He was arrested by ICE agents when he landed in Los Angeles.

Russell was convicted after a three-day jury trial March 1-3, 2010 of producing child pornography on four separate occasions involving two minor victims, Jane Doe 1, born in 1992, and Jane Doe 2, born in 1994. The evidence at trial showed that Russell set up websites in 2004 for the Jane Doe victims under the pretense they were modeling. He then had various photo sessions with them and placed many of the pictures on these websites. The pictures charged in the indictment as child pornography were discovered on a computer of an unrelated offender in Canada. Russell's defense at trial that the pictures were artistic expressions and not illegal child pornography was rejected by the jury.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gayle L. Helart and A. Brant Cook who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker also imposed lifetime supervised release following Russell's release from prison. During the period of supervised release, Russell must have no contact with minors under age 18. Russell was fined in the amount of \$5,000.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's

Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

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